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10-25-02
Docket No.: NHL-SCT-16
Serial No.: 09/727,998

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER: Sean E. Vincent
ART UNIT: 1731
SERIAL NO.: 09/727,998
FILING DATE: December 1, 2000
INVENTORS: Ina MITRA, Danuta GRABOWSKI, Uwe KOLBERG, and Paul KISSL
TITLE: ZINC-CONTAINING OPTICAL GLASS MATERIALS

Greensburg, Pennsylvania 15601

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 15, 2002

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

PROVISIONAL ELECTION

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action dated September 16, 2002, please enter the following Provisional Election.

In the Examiner's Action dated September 16, 2002, the Examiner indicated that an Election to one of the following "species" was required:

- I. Claims 1-18, drawn to compositions of glass, classified in class 501, subclass 67.
- II. Claims 19-22, drawn to methods of melting glass, classified in class 65, subclass 134.1.

In response, the requirement for election set forth in the Action

is hereby expressly traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement are respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the above-listed Groups I and II are so closely related to one another that their examination could be most efficiently and effectively carried out in a single application.

However, in the event the election requirement is maintained, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I for prosecution in the present application. Presently, Claims 1-18 all appear to apply to Group I.

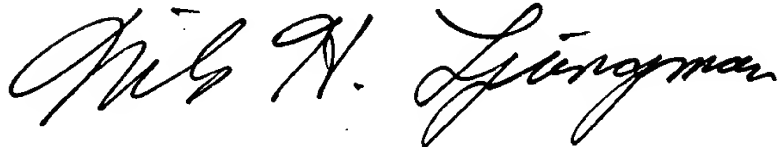
It is respectfully requested that an action on the merits be issued at an early date.

If mailed, I, the person signing this certification below, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated in the certification of mailing on the transmittal letter sent herewith, or if facsimile transmitted, I, the person signing this certification below, hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated in the certification of facsimile transmission on the transmittal letter which is

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being facsimile transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nils H. Ljungman".

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